



LAC LA BELLE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

www.llbmd.org

Commissioners Meeting
THURSDAY, May 17, 2012 – 7:00 P.M.

Town of Oconomowoc Town Hall
6812 Brown Street
Oconomowoc, WI 53066

"The LLBMD seeks to promote environmentally conscious and fiscally responsible decisions by providing education, enhancing a healthy lake ecosystem and ensuring safe use of Lac La Belle for today and tomorrow."

Minutes

1. Call to Order

P. Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

2. Roll Call of Commissioners

Present

Paul Carpenter

Dan Bauer

Karen Carr (arrived 7:08 p.m.)

Lou Morgan

Absent

Brian Wiemer

Dave Falstad

Mike Fitzsimmons

3. Comments from the Floor

Bill King, N56W39214 Lakeview Lane, was present regarding his concern about the lack of buoys on Lac La Belle this year. He explained the history of this issue noting there were several rocks underwater near Lakeview Lane that had cause damage and possible injury to boaters in recent years. Two years ago, he had gone to the Town of Oconomowoc Town Board regarding these same concerns. He had gone through the process of adding buoys to the lake and gone out on the barge with area municipal Staff to place the buoys using a GPS device to ensure accuracy to within nine feet for future placement on the lake at that time. Since then, the buoys had not been placed in the correct locations. Last year, there were less buoys than the year before and they had drifted off their mark during the boating season. No one had replaced them in the correct location and he was concerned that this year the same thing would happen. As a result, he had contacted Town of Oconomowoc Police Chief Wallis to assist in this matter. B. King reported that Chief Wallis's recommendation was to move the buoys to wherever they should be; however, he thought it was the responsibility of the Town Department of Public Works (DPW) to place the buoys in the correct location so that no one got hurt. In addition, he noticed that the buoys placed last year were not rigged as recommended by the manufacturer and thus, they frequently bounced along the bottom in times of high wind or water and moved off their mark. B. King thought they should be correctly

rigged each year to avoid having to come back out and reset them during the boating season. While permission had been given for having residents move the buoys to a correct location, he did not think it was the role or responsibility of lake residents to be moving the buoys. He had received information that someone from the Town of Oconomowoc Department of Public Works Staff had checked the buoy locations again this year and said they were fine. B. King did not think they were fine and remained concerned as the buoys in the current locations were not an aide to navigation. He was concerned for people that did not know the lake and would potentially get hurt trying to boat, ski, or swim in these incorrectly marked areas. He was present to request the District attempt to provide help in this matter.

P. Carpenter stated he agreed with B. King in this matter as he thought the request for reconsideration of buoy placement should go to the Town of Oconomowoc and City of Oconomowoc DPW Staff. He also questioned the liability of moving the buoys and whether there was a public record of the GPS coordinates utilized to place the buoys. L. Morgan thought the District should have a copy of these coordinates if possible. K. Carr agreed, noting there should also be a record of responsibility for placing the buoys annually. B. King stated City of Oconomowoc DPW Staff had indicated the barge was needed to shift the buoys into correct locations and this was not the case.

Discussion ensued regarding the responsibility and liability that would be assumed should anyone other than Town or City DPW Staff move the buoys. D. Bauer stated while the liability aspect was one issue, he was more concerned about someone getting injured because the buoys were not placed in the correct location. Discussion ensued regarding getting a current copy of the coordinates utilized in buoy placement.

Richard Paul, Brookfield, Wisconsin, was present because he had visited the LLBMD website and found the minutes were not current. He requested consideration be given to publishing the minutes on the website as soon as possible after each meeting so that residents could stay informed on current issues. While he appreciated that additional efforts were being made at this time, he would like to see them within days after a meeting instead of waiting for them to be approved at the next month's meeting.

P. Carpenter thanked all present for comments heard this evening.

4. Correspondence

Emails

Various emails from Kathy Buss, City of Oconomowoc, regarding lake levels:
(5/2 and 5/4)

April 25, 2012 - Mark Frye – Goose Round-Up

April 29, 2012 - Dan Bauer – High Water Survey

Various emails from Bill King regarding buoy placement on LLB: (5/6, 5/15, and 5/17)

Various emails from Chief Jim Wallis regarding buoy placement on LLB: (5/15 and 5/17)

May 7, 2012 - Mark Frye – Dam Operations Public Information meeting

May 11, 2012 – Lisa Reas – Shoreland Restoration program

May 14, 2012 – Julie Larson – DOT

May 16, 2012 – Richard Paul – LLBMD website

May 17, 2012 – Mike Jones – Goose Round-Up-

5. Approval of Minutes

D. Bauer moved to approve the minutes from the April 19, 2012 meeting as presented. L. Morgan seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

6. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was distributed to the Commissioners at the meeting.

K. Carr moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. D. Bauer seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Without objection from the Commission, P. Carpenter moved to Item 15 on the agenda at this time.

7. Payment Authorizations

L. Morgan moved to approve the Payment Authorizations for May 17, 2012 as presented. D. Bauer seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

8. Website Updates

S. Keefe of Accurate Business Communications provided an update noting the website would be updated in the next month. New forms would be added to the site for various upcoming projects including Carpfest, Shoreland Restoration and the Goose Round-Up. S. Keefe explained a meeting was scheduled with the web designer for Wednesday, May 23, 2012 and more information would be available on the site after that date.

P. Carpenter moved to publish the draft Commission meeting minutes with a watermark on the LLBMD website within five business days of each meeting. L. Morgan seconded the motion. P. Carpenter explained funding had been provided to Accurate Business Communications Staff to meet with the web designer at this time. S. Keefe has requested the Commission begin to consider additional information items to be included on the website, including downloadable forms for various LLBMD activities. Discussion ensued regarding the Carpfest form to be placed on the website for registration. S. Keefe clarified the form to be utilized. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

9. Update on 2012 Newsletter

S. Keefe explained the 2012 LLBMD newsletter was nearing completion and would be sent out on or before May 25, 2012. She thanked all present for timely submission of newsletter articles. K. Carr reviewed the distribution of Carpfest flyers to area newspapers and clarified the size of the dumpster to be utilized at Carpfest. She also reviewed the newspapers utilized in years past for distribution of the Carpfest flyers. Discussion ensued regarding whether it was worth the expense to place the information in regional papers.

P. Carpenter moved to reduce the size of the dumpster and to place information related to Carpfest in the Oconomowoc newspapers only. L. Morgan seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

10. Update on CarpFest

P. Carpenter explained Carpfest would be held beginning on Friday, June 1, 2012 at noon and run through Sunday, June 3, 2012. Volunteers were needed to staff the weigh-in table and were scheduled as follows:

Friday, 6/1	4-5 pm	Lou Morgan/Dave Falstad
Saturday, 6/2	7-8 am	Dan Bauer/Karen Carr
	4-6 pm	Karen Carr/Paul Carpenter
Sunday, 6/3	7-8 am	Paul Carpenter/Sally Keefe
	4-5 pm	M. Fitzsimmons/Paul Carpenter

L. Morgan stated he would provide a jump drive for transmission of information recorded at each weigh-in. Volunteers should bring a laptop, gloves, gaffe hook, a camera and an extra scale if possible to each weigh-in. Photos taken at Carpfest should be emailed to abcsally@sbcglobal.net after the contest for inclusion on the website.

P. Carpenter stated he would check with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Staff regarding the use of a seine net offered by a resident of the District to capture carp after Carpfest was over.

11. Discuss & Act on 2012 Shoreland Restoration Program

P. Carpenter stated he had received confirmation from Lisa Reas, environmental consultant regarding participation in the 2012 Shoreland Restoration program. Interested parties should check the District's newsletter and website for more information. L. Morgan and P. Carpenter would coordinate this year's program. More information would be available at the July, 2012, LLBMD Commissioner's meeting.

12. Discuss & Act on Dam Operations Public Information Meeting

P. Carpenter provided a brief summary of the Dam Operations Public Information meeting. K. Carr stated it seemed as though there was nothing further that could be done to mitigate flooding for Lac La Belle in times of high water. D. Bauer agreed. K. Carr stated the dam structure limits were set in place and the water could not exceed that limit or potential failure could result. She heard limits set for the dam, but was not quite certain what the lake level maximum should be when considering the floodplain surrounding Lac La Belle. She questioned whether the water coming through the dam in times of high water allowed a maximum lake level to result or whether it was higher than the maximum amount allowed in order to provide relief to others upstream. P. Carpenter stated there were winter and summer lake levels utilized each year in the dam operations. K. Carr stated she was aware that the physical structure of the dam could only handle the amount of water going over it and that it could only be allowed to flood so far before it was required to be opened; however, she wondered if it was taken to that limit each time or if choices were made upstream to open it beforehand so alleviate flooding elsewhere.

D. Bauer stated the information given at the Dam Operations meeting implied that they took it above the limit but below the failure threshold of the dam. This limit was higher than the flood plain and

needed to be maintained as there would be severe problems for all if the dam let loose. D. Bauer then read the following information into the record regarding a historic Order from 1945 regarding dam operations:

“It is ORDERED:

1. That the County of Waukesha maintain the level of water of the Okauchee Lake as nearly possible at its maximum elevation of 95.47 feet insofar as this may be accomplished by the careful operation of the gates in the dam. If, however, due to sudden excessive precipitation and runoff the stage of water in the lake should rise above the maximum elevation of 95.47 feet, then and in that event no greater volume of water is to be released through or over the dam than is equal to the inflow in the lake...”

He went on to state that they had stated that the water was being maintained at a higher level than was required in the study. In addition, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Staff present at the Dam Operations meeting had indicated the DNR was happy with the way the levels were being managed currently.

Discussion ensued regarding whether there were any appropriate lands that could be utilized to assist in mitigating flooding on Lac La Belle after the water was released from Oconomowoc Lake during times of high water prior to reaching Lac La Belle. K. Carr stated all present could see the results of the high water, but at this time there was not a viable solution to it and it seemed like there was nothing more officials could do with the dams to assist in holding back water. D. Bauer agreed. P. Carpenter stated while it was difficult to hear that nothing more could be done at least more people were aware of the flooding issues on Lac La Belle in high water and perhaps that would help with communication in the future.

D. Bauer stated consideration would have to be given as to whether it would be helpful to complete a second survey regarding flood damage to area residents as there was nothing more to be done.

13. Review results for Lake Levels Study

This matter had been discussed as part of Item 12. See above.

14. Update on Golf Course Creek

K. Carr stated there was no update on this matter. L. Morgan stated he had not observed a buffer strip near the plowed fields by Golf Course Creek in recent weeks.

15. Update on Goose Round-Up

P. Carpenter explained the Goose Round-Up had taken place in recent years with the exception of last year.

Martha Eckstaedt, W384 N6115 Nokoma Drive, was present regarding this year's Goose Round-Up. She stated the geese were present over the summer last year and into last fall. They were back this year due to the early spring. She had seen all sizes of geese in the past year and many were on or near her property. She was concerned about the amount of fecal material on her property and questioned when the Round-Up would take place this year.

P. Carpenter explained historically the Round-Up was held in mid-June of each year when the birds were flightless. He then explained the process to be utilized this year in the Round-Up. The City of Oconomowoc, who manages Fowler Lake, had determined nothing would be done on Fowler this year; however, next year they would consider partnering with the District in the Round-Up. There was no cost sharing opportunities considered at this time, but talks would resume next year as the process got started.

M. Eckstaedt thanked the Commission for hearing her concerns.

P. Carpenter returned to Item 7 on the agenda at this time.

16. Set Next Meeting Date

The next Lac La Belle Management District meeting will be held on June 21, 2012 at 7:00 P.M. at the Town of Oconomowoc Town Hall.

17. Agenda for Next Meeting

The following items were suggested for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting:

- Update on LLBMD Website
- Update on Carpfest
- Discuss & Act on Shoreland Restoration program
- Discuss & Act on Goose Round-Up
- Update on Golf Course Creek
- Update on any further results of Lake Level Study

18. Adjournment

L. Morgan moved to adjourn from the meeting. K. Carr seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Minutes prepared by:

Accurate Business Communications, Inc.